



## Urban poverty and vulnerability to climate change in Latin America

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### Abstract:

This paper considers who within the urban population of Latin America is most at risk from the likely impacts of climate change over the next few decades. It also considers how this risk is linked to poverty and to the inadequacies in city and municipal governments. It discusses those who live or work in locations most at risk (including those lacking the needed infrastructure); those who lack knowledge and capacity to adapt; those whose homes and neighbourhoods face the greatest risks when impacts occur; and those who are least able to cope with the impacts (for instance, from injury, death and loss of property and income). Adaptation to climate change cannot eliminate many of the extreme weather risks, so it needs to limit their impacts through good disaster preparedness and post-disaster response. This paper also discusses the measures currently underway that address the vulnerability of urban populations to extreme weather, and how these measures can contribute to building resilience to the impacts of climate change.

**Source:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1177/0956247809103019>

### Resource Description

#### Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Policymaker

#### Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

#### Exposure : ☒

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event, Precipitation, Temperature

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**Extreme Weather Event:** Drought, Flooding, Other Extreme Event

**Extreme Weather Event (other):** Storms

**Temperature:** Extreme Cold, Extreme Heat

**Geographic Feature:** 

resource focuses on specific type of geography

Urban

**Geographic Location:** 

resource focuses on specific location

Non-United States

**Non-United States:** Central/South America

**Health Co-Benefit/Co-Harm (Adaption/Mitigation):** 

specification of beneficial or harmful impacts to health resulting from efforts to reduce or cope with greenhouse gases

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**Health Impact:** 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Injury

**Intervention:** 

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

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**Mitigation/Adaptation:** 

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** 

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Children, Elderly, Low Socioeconomic Status, Pregnant Women

**Resource Type:** 

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

**Resilience:** 

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capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

### **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified

### **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content